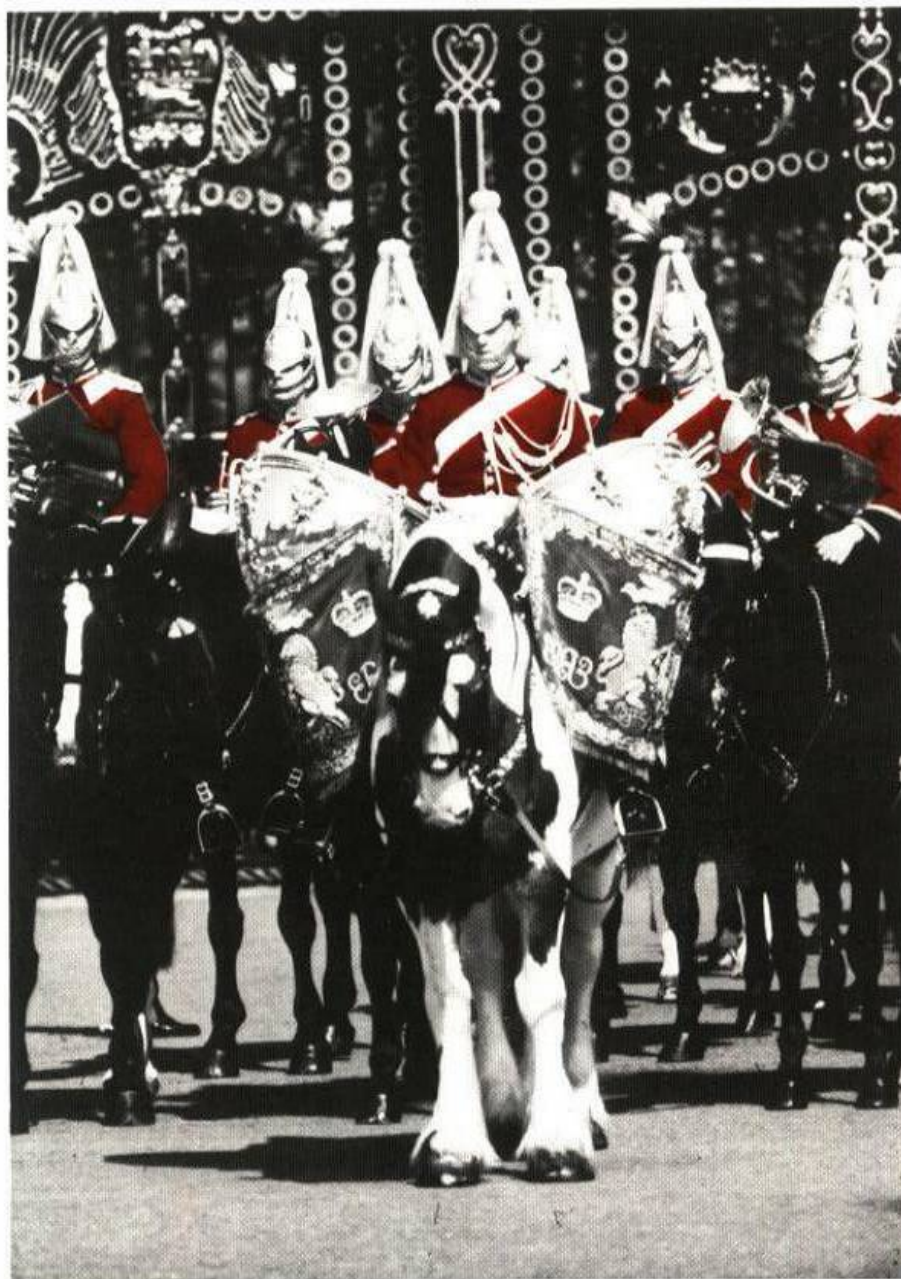


LONDON

W O R K B O O K



F R A N C I S · H A L L A W E L L



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PART ONE

Buckingham Palace

1 General comprehension

Watch the whole scene, then answer these questions.

1. What is Buckingham Palace?

.....

2. Which ceremony are we watching?

.....

2 Vocabulary

capital	sight
south-east	tourist
centre	band
king, queen	the rest of
guardsman	uniform
to march	helmet
to take the place of	tradition

3 Detailed comprehension

Watch the whole scene again and answer these questions.

1. Where is Buckingham Palace?

.....

2. How often is the Changing of the Guard?

.....

3. How many guardsmen are there in the new guard?

.....

4. Who enters the gates of the Palace first?

.....

5. What is the name of the helmets that the soldiers are wearing?

.....

6. What are they made of?

.....

4 Gap filling

Fill in the gaps in the sentences below. Watch the scene again, if necessary.

1. London is Great Britain.

2. It's in of England.

3. Every day at Buckingham Palace a famous ceremony.

4. There are always guardsmen – and policemen too – the Palace.

5. Every day a new guard of thirty guardsmen

..... to the Palace

and the old guard.

6. First the band the gates of the Palace.

7. Then the new guard marches through the gates.

8. The guardsmen wear traditional uniform:

..... and

9. London has many like the Changing of the Guard.

5 Description

You are a tourist watching the ceremony. Describe what is happening.

1. guardsmen/march/Palace

The guardsmen are marching to the Palace.

2. guardsmen/wear/traditional uniform

.....

3. band/march/play/instruments

.....

4. tourists/watch/ceremony

.....

5. police/control/crowd

.....

6. band/enter/gates

.....

7. new guard/follow/band

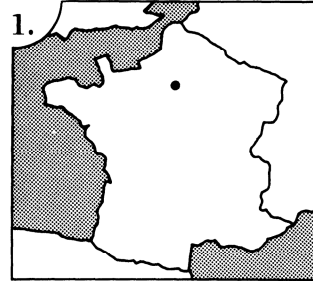
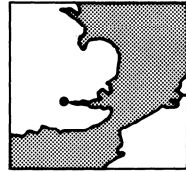
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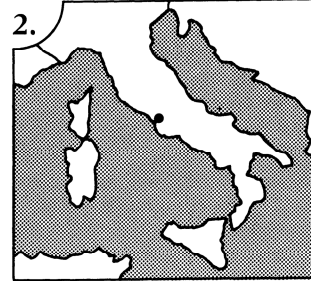
Capital cities

Look at the maps below and make sentences about them using the words you are given. For example,

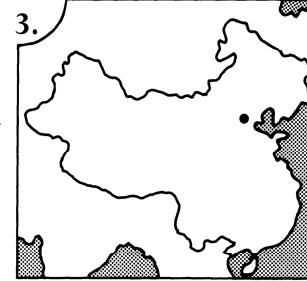
London/Great Britain/south-east/England
London is the capital of Great Britain. It's in the south-east of England.



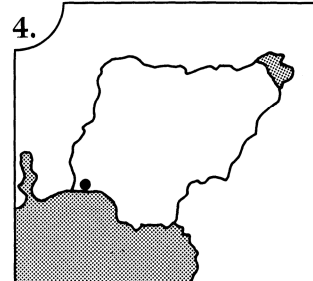
1. Paris/France/north



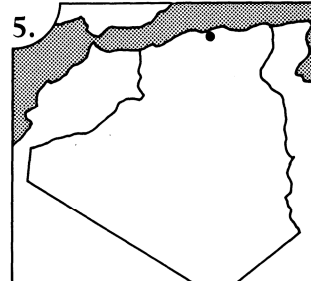
2. Rome/Italy/centre



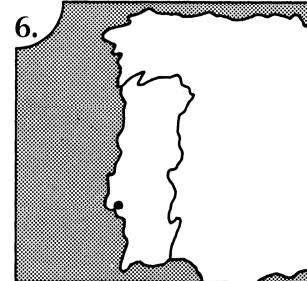
3. Beijing/China/north-east



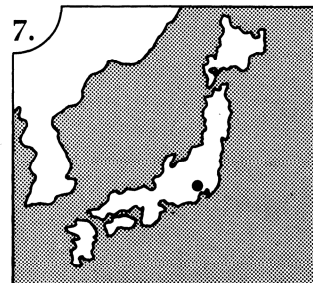
4. Lagos/Nigeria/south coast



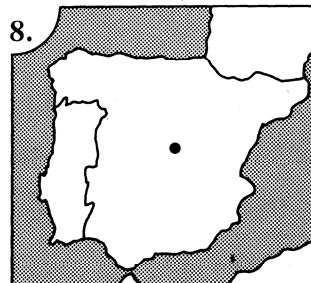
5. Algiers/Algeria
north coast



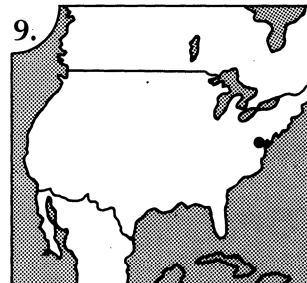
6. Lisbon/Portugal/centre
west coast



7. Tokyo/Japan/east



8. Madrid/Spain
centre



9. Washington/USA
north-east

PART TWO
*Greenwich and
St. Katharine's Dock*

1 General comprehension

Watch the whole scene and tick (✓) the right answer(s).

1. What can you see in Greenwich?
a museum ☐
a bridge ☐
a famous ship ☐
2. What was St. Katharine's Dock in the old days?
a museum for boats ☐
a place for ships to stop and unload ☐
a place for traders to keep goods ☐
3. How do ships pass Tower Bridge?
they can't pass ☐
the bridge opens ☐
the bridge is very high ☐

2 Vocabulary

- | | |
|------------------|--------------|
| hospital | ivory |
| to sail, sailor | marble |
| to trade, trader | wine |
| merchant ship | spices |
| tea | yacht |
| deck | unusual |
| dock | machinery |
| building | to raise |
| to store | just in time |

3 Detailed comprehension

Watch the scene again and tick (✓) the right answer.

1. When was the Maritime Museum built?
in 1862 ☐
in 1762 ☐
in 1752 ☐

2. How long did it take the *Cutty Sark* to sail from Australia to England?
32 days ☐
62 days ☐
72 days ☐
3. When was St. Katharine's Dock finished?
at the end of the 1700s ☐
at the end of the 1800s ☐
in 1828 ☐
4. What did the bus driver do when the bridge started to open?
he stopped ☐
he went backwards ☐
he went forwards ☐

4 Word order

Put the words in the sentences below into the correct order.

1. 1762/a/was/hospital/it/sailors/built/as/in/for
.....
.....
2. seventy-two/once/Australia/she/to/England/only/sailed/
in/days/from
.....
.....
3. it's/museum/boats/for/popular/a/yachts/for/a/place/and/unusual
.....
.....
4. the/towers/it/for/is/the/machinery/in/raising/two
.....
.....

Which tourist sight does each sentence refer to?

1.
2.
3.
4.

5 Matching

Choose the phrases on the right which complete the phrases on the left.

- | | | |
|--|--------|---|
| 1. One of the most popular sights for tourists . . . | is/was | the most beautiful building in Greenwich. |
| 2. The <i>Cutty Sark</i> . . . | | the most important financial centre in the world. |
| 3. The best way to get to Greenwich . . . | | the fastest merchant ship on the sea. |
| 4. The Maritime Museum . . . | | one of the most famous bridges in London. |
| 5. Tower Bridge . . . | | the Changing of the Guard. |
| 6. The biggest city in Britain . . . | | by boat. |
| 7. Once the City of London . . . | | London. |

6 Dates

Look at these dates.

1828 = 'eighteen twenty-eight'
1907 = 'nineteen-o-seven'
2003 = 'two thousand and three'

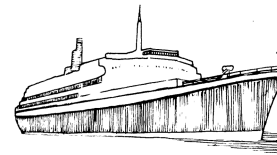
Now practise saying these dates.

1511 1540 1681 1720 1777 1804 1861
1903 1956 1984 1999 2001 2012 2040

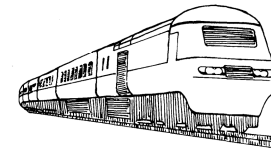
7 Getting around

Here are some of the ways you can travel to London or in London. Choose the right words from the box.

coach bicycle hovercraft train bus car plane
underground boat



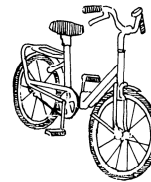
1.



2.



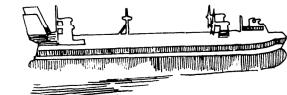
3.



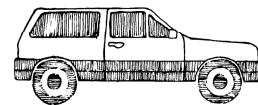
4.



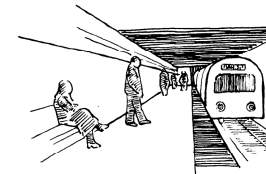
5.



6.



7.



8.



9.

8 Work with a partner

Use the words below to ask and answer questions, like this:

How do you get to school every day?
I get to school by bus.
How can you get to the airport?
You can get to the airport by coach.

Britain/London/Greenwich/airport/station/shops/work/home/
country/town

PART THREE

The Tower of London

1 General comprehension

Watch the whole scene and tick (✓) the right answer.

1. William the Conqueror built the Tower of London
 - to please the Normans ☐
 - to frighten the English ☐
 - to protect Londoners ☐
2. Beefeaters are
 - royal guards of today ☐
 - policemen ☐
 - Warders of the Tower ☐
3. The Changing of the Guard ceremony at the Tower happens
 - on Tower Green ☐
 - in the Jewel House ☐
 - in the White Tower ☐

2 Vocabulary

ancient	ghost
bank (of a river)	to die
to invade	jewel
to impress	crown
to frighten	as well as
cruel	regiment
history	gun
prison	special occasion
enemy	no longer

3 Detailed comprehension

Watch the scene again. Three of the sentences below are false. Which ones?

1. The Tower of London is on the north bank of the Thames. ☐
2. William the Conqueror invaded Britain in 1066. ☐
3. People say that the king's ghost walks in the Tower at night. ☐
4. The walls of the White Tower are thirty metres high. ☐
5. The Beefeaters wear the uniform of royal guards of the year 1600. ☐
6. The guardsmen on Tower Green are part of the same regiment that guards Buckingham Palace. ☐
7. They fire guns on Tower Green every day. ☐

4 Gap filling

Fill in the missing verbs in the sentences below. Then watch the first part of the scene again to check your answers.

1. It was by William the Conqueror, who Britain in 1066.
2. He the Tower to and the English.
3. It a long and cruel history.
4. The ghosts of the men and women who in the Tower still here at night.
5. There's also a Jewel House, which the famous Crown Jewels.

5 Linking

Make one sentence out of the two sentences in each line below, by using 'who' or 'which'.

1. This is the Tower of London. It is on the north bank of the Thames.
.....
2. It was started by William the Conqueror. He wanted to impress and frighten the English.
.....
3. This is the White Tower. It is the oldest.
.....
4. You can see the Warders of the Tower. They guard the Crown Jewels.
.....
5. The cannons make a lot of noise. This sometimes frightens visitors.
.....

6

Write sentences

Make a note of who is doing each action below. Watch the scene again, if necessary.

1. showing visitors around Beefeaters
2. holding a little girl's hand
3. taking photographs
4. watching the ceremony
5. carrying a sword
6. playing a bugle
7. giving commands
8. firing guns
9. blocking her ears

Now write sentences using your notes, like this:

1. I saw Beefeaters showing visitors around.
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.
7.
8.
9.

PART FOUR

St. Paul's Cathedral

1

General comprehension

Watch the whole scene, then answer these questions.

1. What is the City of London?
.....
2. Who was Sir Christopher Wren?
.....
3. What happened in St. Paul's Cathedral in 1981?
.....

2

Vocabulary

architect	to whisper
cross	wedding
step	to marry
dome	to bury
to design	island
feeling	peace
space	noise
light	activity
masterpiece	financial

3

Detailed comprehension

Watch the scene again and answer these questions.

1. How long did it take to finish St. Paul's?
.....
2. How high is St. Paul's?
.....
3. How can you get to the dome?
.....
4. What happens if you whisper on one side of the dome in the Whispering Gallery?
.....
5. Where is Sir Christopher Wren buried?
.....

4

Write questions

Write the questions that give you the answers below.

- Where.....
In the heart of the City.
- When.....
It was built after the Great Fire of London.
- Who
Sir Christopher Wren.
- How many
More than fifty.
- Where.....
It's inside the dome.
- When.....
They were married in 1981.
- Who
Many famous people, including Sir Christopher Wren.

5

Work with a partner

Look at this example, then ask and answer questions using the notes below and the verbs in brackets.

1675: Sir Christopher Wren started St. Paul's

1710: Sir Christophèr Wren finished St. Paul's (*build*)

Q: *How long did it take* Sir Christopher Wren to build St. Paul's?

A: *It took* him thirty-five years.

- 4 pm: We started climbing up to the dome.
4.15 pm: We reached the top (*climb up to*)
- 1081: The White Tower was started.
1097: The White Tower was finished. (*build*)
- 11 am: The guards leave for the Palace.
11.20 am: They enter the gates. (*march*)
- One day the *Cutty Sark* left Australia.
72 days later she reached England. (*sail to*)
- 8 am: I leave home.
8.30 am: I arrive at school. (*get to*)

6

Gap filling

Fill in the gaps in the sentences on the next page by choosing from the prepositions in the box. You can use some of the words more than once.

in on next to at outside inside near
close to in the heart/centre/middle of

- London is the south-east of England the River Thames.
- Buckingham Palace is London.
- There is a famous ceremony every day Buckingham Palace.
- The guardsmen stand the Palace.
- The *Cutty Sark* was the fastest merchant ship the sea.
- the buildings St. Katharine's Dock, traders stored ivory, marble, wine and spices.
- Tower Bridge is very St. Katharine's Dock.
- The machinery for raising the bridge is the two towers.
- Once a bus was the bridge when it started to open.
- The Tower of London is the north bank of the Thames Tower Bridge.
- Many famous men and women died the Tower.
- St. Paul's is the City.
- The Whispering Gallery is the dome.
- If you whisper the wall one side, you can be heard the other side.

7

Now do the same for these sentences. Choose from this list of prepositions.

through from to towards up to

- Every day a new guard marches the Palace.
- First the band marches the gates.
- If you follow the Thames the sea, you will come Greenwich.
- The *Cutty Sark* carried tea China.
- You can get Greenwich by boat.
- Many merchant ships sailed London in the old days.
- The cathedral is one hundred and ten metres high the floor the top of the cross.
- You can climb the 627 steps the dome.

PART FIVE
Westminster and Trafalgar Square

1 General comprehension

In this scene you will see all the sights below. Watch the scene and mark them in the order you hear about them. Number them 1–7. The first has been done for you.

- ☐ Nelson's Column
- ☒ 1 The Houses of Parliament
- ☐ The National Gallery
- ☐ Westminster Abbey
- ☐ The Statue of Eros
- ☐ Big Ben
- ☐ Whitehall

2 Vocabulary

political	straight ahead
nation	to commemorate
leader	victory
to represent	statue
to debate	pigeon
coronation	popular/unpopular
bell	to look after
headquarters	the god of love

3 Detailed comprehension

Watch the scene again. Which sentences below are true (T) and which are false (F)?

- ☐ 1. Westminster lies on the south bank of the Thames.
- ☐ 2. There are two Houses of Parliament.
- ☐ 3. William the Conqueror was crowned in the House of Lords.
- ☐ 4. Big Ben is the name of a bell.
- ☐ 5. Admiral Lord Nelson won a battle at sea in 1805.
- ☐ 6. The pigeons in Trafalgar Square are popular with everyone.
- ☐ 7. Piccadilly Circus is not far from Trafalgar Square.

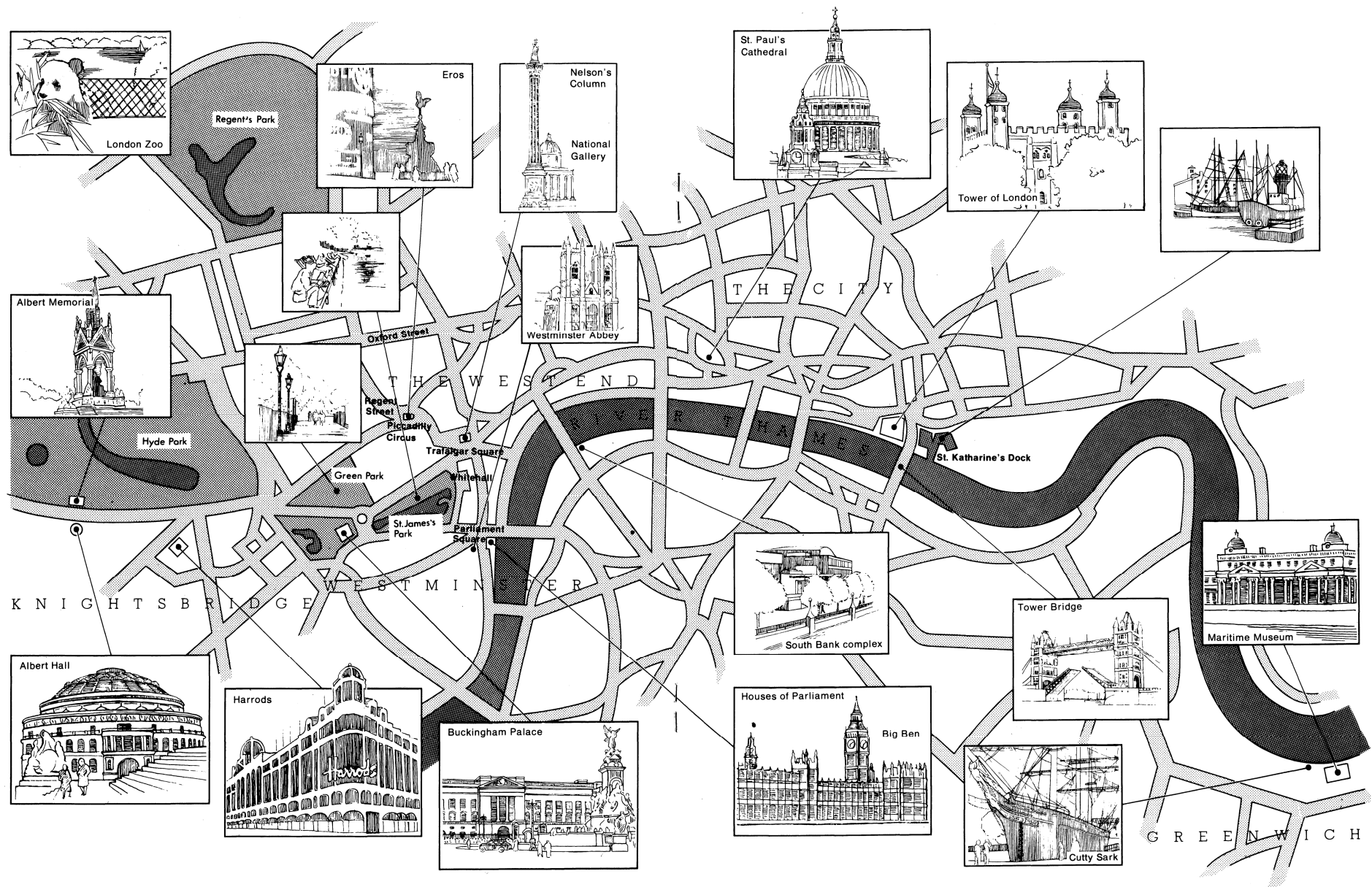
4 Word order

Put the words in the sentences below into the correct order.

1. the/British/it's/political/the/of/centre/Kingdom/the/and/
Parliament/the/of/United/home
.....
.....
2. south/white/its/north/and/four/east/look/faces/west
.....
.....
3. the/of/clock/the/it's/the/bell/inside/name
.....
.....
4. Nelson/in/Admiral/the/at/this/Trafalgar/1805/commemorates/
sea/of/Lord/victory
.....
.....
5. with/who/the/after/people/the/they're/popular/the/but/
tourists/buildings/with/unpopular/look
.....
.....
6. is/home/one/the/Gallery/of/these/many/of/paintings/National/
famous
.....
.....

5 What do the words in italics in sentences 1 to 6 refer to? The first one has been done for you.

1. *it* = Westminster
2. *its* =
.....
3. *it* =
.....
4. *this* =
.....
5. *they* =
.....
6. *these* =
.....



6 Match and write

Match the descriptions below with the right picture and write them next to the picture. Then write a short description of each of the sights in your own words.

The House of Commons and the House of Lords.
The political centre of the United Kingdom.
Almost every coronation has happened here.
Next to Parliament.
It looks over a sea of pigeons.
It's the name of the bell in the tower.
It stands in the heart of London's West End.
It commemorates a sea victory.
The Greek god of love.
London's famous clock tower.
At Piccadilly Circus.
The statue of Admiral Lord Nelson.
It rises over Parliament.
The nation's leaders and representatives meet here.

1.
2.
3.

This is Big Ben

.....

.....

.....

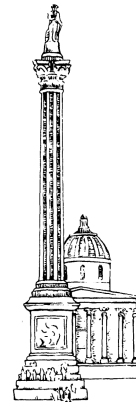
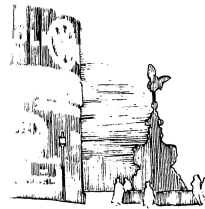
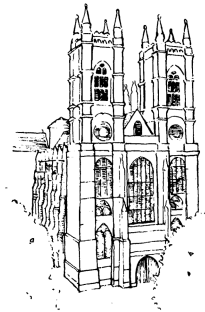
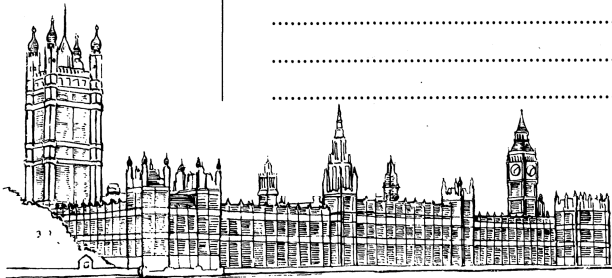
1.
2.
3.

These are the Houses of Parliament

.....

.....

.....



1.
2.

This is Westminster Abbey

.....

.....

.....

1.
2.
3.

This is the Statue of Eros

.....

.....

.....

1.
2.
3.

This is Nelson's Column

.....

.....

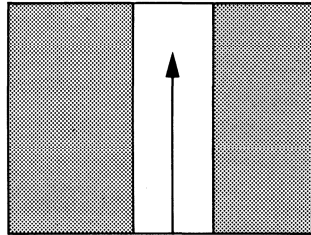
.....

7 Asking and giving directions

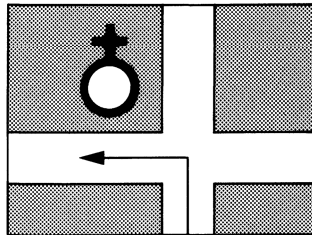
Here are some expressions we use when we ask for, and give directions.

Can you please tell me the way to . . . ?

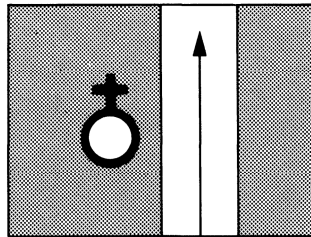
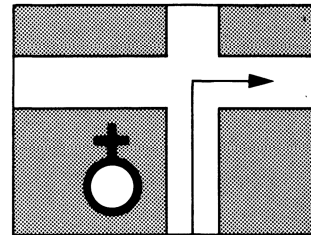
Yes, certainly, you . . .



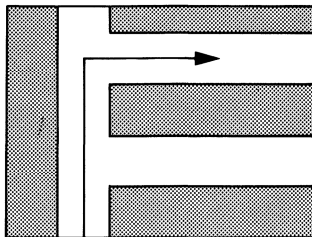
. . . go along/up/down Whitehall



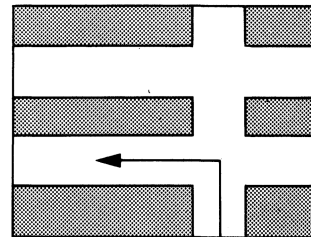
. . . turn left (at/before the church)



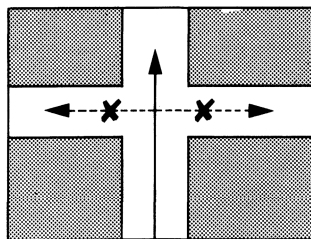
. . . go past the church



. . . take the second right



. . . take the first left



. . . go straight on/ahead

1. Look at the map in the middle of the book. How do you get from Big Ben to Nelson's Column? And from Nelson's Column to Piccadilly Circus?
2. Work with a partner. Take turns asking for and giving directions to places of interest.

PART SIX

London's parks

1 General comprehension

Here are the names of some of London's parks.

Regent's Park	Green Park	Hyde Park
St. James's Park	Kensington Gardens	

Watch the whole scene and answer these questions.

1. Where is the band playing?

2. Where is the Albert Memorial?

3. Which is London's most elegant park?

4. Where is London Zoo?

2 Vocabulary

proud of
countryside
to enjoy
to belong to
swan
goose
duck
in memory of
concert
blossom

attractive
lake
aviary
environment
resident
mountain
wonderful
creature
bamboo
fond of

3 Detailed comprehension

Watch the scene again. Which sentences below are true (T) and which are false (F)? The first has been done for you.

- ☒ 1. London's parks used to belong to the kings and queens.
☐ 2. St. James's Park is the oldest.
☐ 3. There is a statue of Henry the Eighth in Kensington Gardens.
☐ 4. The Promenade Concerts are held in St. James's Park.
☐ 5. There are gardens and lakes in Regent's Park.
☐ 6. All the animals in the Zoo are born there.
☐ 7. Pandas come from the mountains of north-west China.

4 Gap filling

Fill in the missing adjectives in the sentences below. Then watch the video to check your answers.

1. London is of her many and spaces.
2. All the parks were once gardens.
3. St. James's Park is London's
4. In the park you can feed the swans, geese, ducks and other birds that live near the lake.
5. One of the times to visit London's parks is in the spring.
6. Regent's Park is a place of blossom and flowers.
7. It's perhaps London's most park, with its gardens and lakes.
8. The Zoo has an aviary where birds can live in a environment.
9. The Zoo's most residents are, of course, the pandas.
10. There are very few of these creatures left in the world.
11. Their food is bamboo and they're very of it.

5 Matching

Choose the phrases on the right which complete the phrases on the left.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. The parks were once royal gardens ... | but today they look after the Tower. |
| 2. There used to be many pandas ... | but now it's a museum for ships and the sea. |
| 3. This building was once a hospital for sailors ... | but there are very few of them left. |
| 4. Merchant ships used to sail to St. Katharine's Dock ... | but now there are streets and houses. |
| 5. The king used to put his enemies in the Tower ... | and it's said you can sometimes see their ghosts. |
| 6. The Beefeaters were once royal guards ... | and it's still a popular place for boats. |
| 7. There used to be fields in Westminster ... | and it's still important today. |
| 8. Once the City was the financial centre of the world ... | but today they are here for everyone to enjoy. |

6 Vocabulary exercise

Work in pairs. One of you works with the picture of a London park below. The other works with the picture on the next page and should turn to it now. Work separately for the first part of the exercise.

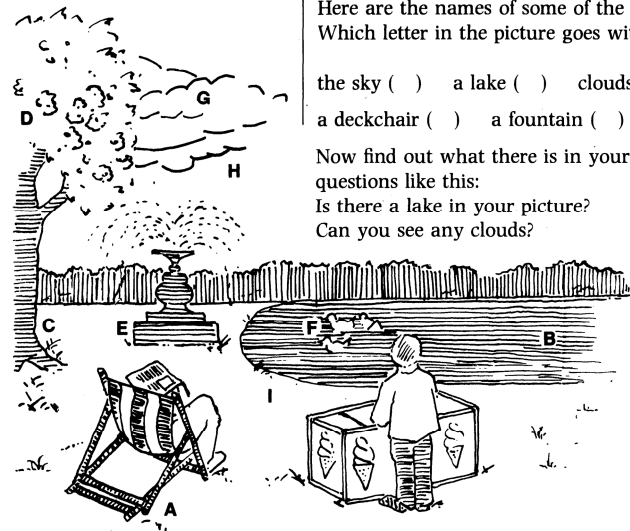
Here are the names of some of the things you can see in a park. Which letter in the picture goes with which word?

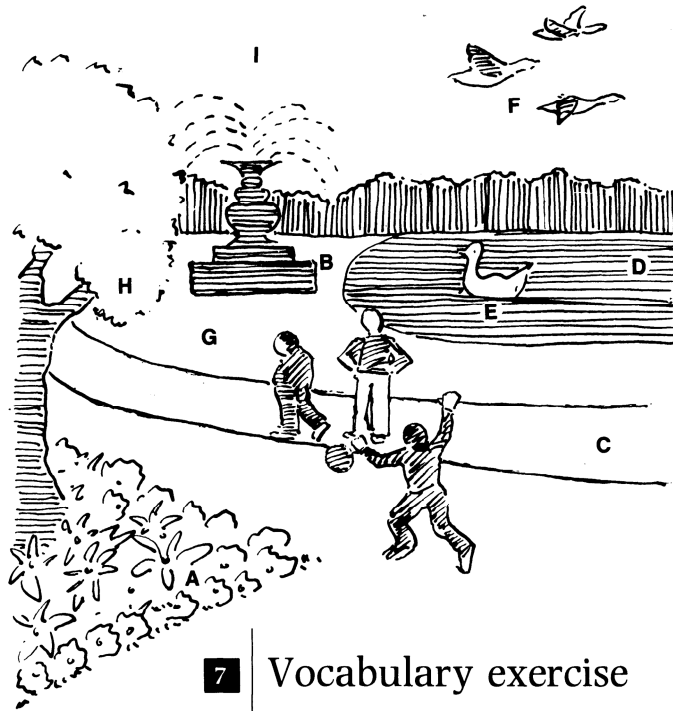
the sky () a lake () clouds () ducks () a tree ()
 a deckchair () a fountain () blossoms () a lawn ()

Now find out what there is in your partner's picture by asking questions like this:

Is there a lake in your picture?

Can you see any clouds?





7 Vocabulary exercise

This picture is slightly different from your partner's picture on page 23. Here are the names of some of the things you can see in it. Which letter in the picture goes with which word?

the sky () a lake () a tree () a path ()
 a fountain () a lawn () a swan () geese ()
 a flower bed ()

Now find out what there is in your partner's picture by asking questions like this:

Is there a flower bed in your picture?

PART SEVEN

Shopping and theatre

1 General comprehension

Here are the names of eight famous places in London. Watch the whole scene and tick (✓) the ones that are mentioned.

Oxford Street	<input type="checkbox"/>
The West End	<input type="checkbox"/>
Westminster	<input type="checkbox"/>
Regent Street	<input type="checkbox"/>
Knightsbridge	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hyde Park	<input type="checkbox"/>
Piccadilly Circus	<input type="checkbox"/>
The South Bank complex	<input type="checkbox"/>

2 Vocabulary

store	antique
attraction, attractive	collector
jeweller	matchbox
gold	specialist
silver	toy
boutique	musical
fashion	character

3 Detailed comprehension

Watch the scene again and tick (✓) the right answers.

- In Oxford Street there are
☐ big stores.
☐ antique shops.
- The shops in the streets off Oxford Street are
☐ more famous
☐ smaller
 than the shops in Oxford Street.
- Hamleys is
☐ a large toy shop.
☐ the biggest shop in London.
- Harrods is
☐ in Knightsbridge.
☐ in Regent Street.

5. London is famous for
☐ its theatres.
☐ its cinemas.
6. You can usually see a modern musical
☐ in the South Bank complex.
☐ near Piccadilly Circus.
7. As the centuries pass
☐ everything in London changes.
☐ some things in London don't change.

4 Answer the questions

1. Why do people come to Oxford Street?

2. Where can you find jewellers and specialist shops?

3. What can you get at Harrods?

4. Where can you see a Shakespeare play?

5. Where is the South Bank complex?

5 Write sentences

Rewrite the sentences below using these words
 as/as . . . as/as well as/such as. Then watch the scene
 again to see if your answers are the same as the video.

1. Sightseeing is popular with visitors to London. So is shopping.

2. Here you'll find smaller shops, like jewellers selling gold and silver.

3. When evening falls in London, shops close, but restaurants, cinemas and theatres open.

4. In the South Bank complex, there's theatre. There's classical music, art and cinema, too.

5. London changes while the centuries pass, but its ceremonies and traditions stay the same.

6 Going shopping

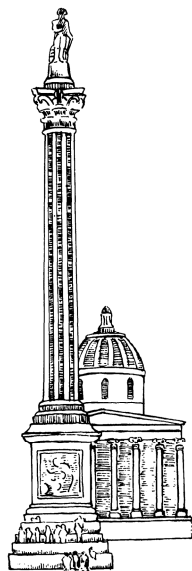
1. Read this conversation between a customer and an assistant in a clothes shop, and make sure that you understand all the words.
 (C is the customer: A is the assistant)

A Can I help you, madam?
 C Yes. I want to buy a dress.
 A What size are you?
 C Size 12.
 A How about this one?
 C Can I try it on?
 A Yes, of course. The changing room is over there.

Later . . .
 C It's too small.
 A Oh dear. Would you like to try a larger size?
 C Yes please.
 A Here you are.

Later . . .
 C This one is fine, but do you have a different colour?
 A Yes. Here's one in blue and another in red.
 C I'll take the red one, please.
 A Thank you madam. That's forty pounds, please.
 C Here you are.
 A Thank you. Goodbye.
 C Goodbye.

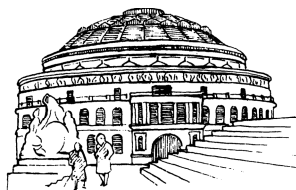
2. Read the conversation again and change it. This time the customer is a man looking for some trousers.
3. Work with a partner. One of you is the customer and the other is the assistant. Take turns buying and selling these items: a jacket, some shoes, an overcoat.
 You can use the conversation above as a model, but you will need to change several words.



How well do you know London?

1 Places to go

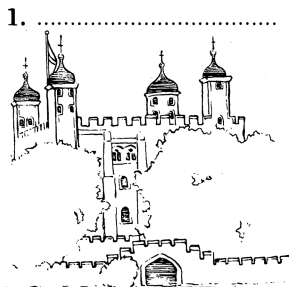
What are the names of the places and sights below?



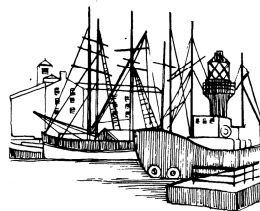
2.



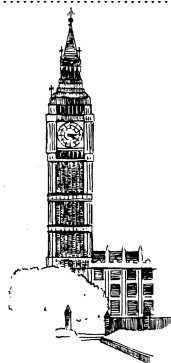
3.



1.



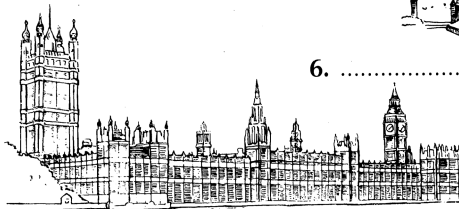
5.



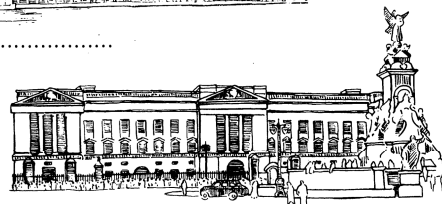
6.



7.



8.



9.

2 Things to do

Where can you ...

1. ... watch the Changing of the Guard?
.....
2. ... go on board an old merchant ship?
.....
3. ... see the Crown Jewels?
.....
4. ... stand in the Whispering Gallery?
.....
5. ... see a statue of a boy with a bow and arrow?
.....
6. ... feed the pigeons?
.....
7. ... see a very large clock?
.....
8. ... watch the pandas?
.....

3 History quiz

1. What was the Maritime Museum in the 18th century?
.....
2. What did the *Cutty Sark* carry from China?
.....
3. When was St. Katharine's Dock built?
.....
4. Who started the Tower of London?
.....
5. Who wore the Beefeaters' uniform in the year 1500?
.....
6. What happened in 1666?
.....
7. Where have almost all coronations happened since 1066?
.....
8. What happened in 1805?
.....
9. Which king had six wives?
.....

London videoscript

Part 1

Buckingham Palace

London is the capital of Great Britain. It's in the south-east of England on the River Thames. In the centre of the city is Buckingham Palace, the London home of the kings and queens of this country. And every day at Buckingham Palace, there's a famous ceremony.

We're watching the Changing of the Guard. There are always guardsmen – and policemen too – outside the Palace. Every day* a new guard of thirty guardsmen marches to the Palace and takes the place of the old guard.

This is one of the most popular sights for tourists in London. First the band marches through the gates of the Palace. The job of the police is to stop the tourists from following the guards! Then the rest of the new guard marches through the gates. The guardsmen wear traditional uniform: a red coat and a black helmet. The helmet is called a 'bearskin' and it's made of fur.

London has many traditions like the Changing of the Guard and many sights for the tourist to see. Buckingham Palace is just one of them.

Part 2

Greenwich and St. Katharine's Dock

If you follow the River Thames towards the sea, you'll come to Greenwich, in south-east London. Here you can visit the Maritime Museum – a museum for ships and the sea. It was built in 1762 as a hospital for sailors.

The sea has always been very important for Britain, and for London, because of trade. This old and beautiful ship is the *Cutty Sark*, a merchant ship that carried tea from China. She was the fastest merchant ship on the sea and once she sailed from Australia to England in only

72 days. Today you see tourists on her decks, not sailors. You can get to Greenwich by bus or by train. But perhaps the best way is by boat.

Many merchant ships sailed to London in the old days. But there were no proper docks for them until the end of the seventeen hundreds. St. Katharine's Dock was finished in 1828. In these buildings, traders stored ivory and marble, wine and spices from the East. Today there are no merchant ships in St. Katharine's Dock, but it's a popular place for yachts and a museum for unusual boats.

Very near St. Katharine's Dock is Tower Bridge. It opens when ships want to pass. The machinery for raising it is in the two towers. Once, a bus was in the middle of the bridge when it started to open, but the driver didn't stop. He drove on – just in time!

Part 3

The Tower of London

The ancient Tower of London is on the north bank of the Thames, next to Tower Bridge. It was started by William the Conqueror who invaded Britain in 1066. He built the Tower to impress and frighten the English. It has a long and cruel history.

It was once a prison for enemies of the king. People say the ghosts of the men and women who died in the Tower still walk here at night. There are many buildings here, but the most important is the White Tower, which is the oldest. Its walls are thirty metres high. There's also a Jewel House which contains the famous Crown Jewels.

The men who guard the Tower – and the Crown Jewels – are the Warders or Beefeaters. They can tell you everything about its history. Their clothes are the uniform of royal guards of the year 1500.

As well as Beefeaters, other soldiers guard the Tower – guardsmen of a regiment of foot soldiers – the same regiment that guards Buckingham Palace. And they have their own ceremony on Tower Green.

Sometimes you can see another regiment firing its guns. This happens on special occasions, like a royal birthday. Today the Tower no longer frightens Londoners, but the guns sometimes frighten visitors!

Part 4

St. Paul's Cathedral

St. Paul's Cathedral was built after the Great Fire of 1666. It stands in the heart of the City – the business centre of London. The architect was Sir Christopher Wren. It took him thirty-five years to finish St. Paul's. The cathedral is a hundred and ten metres high from the floor to the top of the cross and you can climb the 627 steps up to the dome. Wren designed St. Paul's to give a feeling of space and light. He built more than fifty churches after the Fire, but this is his masterpiece.

Inside the dome is the Whispering Gallery. If you whisper close to the wall on one side of the dome, you can be heard on the other side. St. Paul's has seen many important occasions, like the Royal Wedding of 1981 when Prince Charles and Princess Diana were married. And famous people are buried here. Sir Christopher Wren himself is buried in the floor under the dome.

St. Paul's Cathedral is an island of peace in the noise and activity of one of the biggest financial centres in the world.

* The ceremony takes place every day during the summer. For the rest of the year it is every other day.

Part 5

Westminster and Trafalgar Square

Westminster lies on the north bank of the river, to the west of the City. It's the political centre of the United Kingdom – the home of the British Parliament. The nation's leaders and the men and women who represent the British people meet and debate in the two Houses of Parliament – The House of Commons and The House of Lords.

Next to Parliament is Westminster Abbey. Almost every coronation has happened here since William the Conqueror. And above Parliament rises London's famous clock tower – Big Ben. Its four white faces look north, south, east and west. But Big Ben isn't really the name of the clock. It's the name of the bell inside the clock.

They say that one of the best ways to see London is from the top of a bus. So let's leave Parliament Square and go along Whitehall. On your left is the headquarters of the Royal Horseguards. And Trafalgar Square is straight ahead. In the middle of Trafalgar Square is Nelson's Column. This commemorates the sea victory of Admiral Lord Nelson at Trafalgar in 1805. Nelson spent his life looking over the sea. And his statue also looks over a sea – a sea of pigeons. These pigeons are probably the fattest in the world. They're popular with the tourists, but unpopular with the people who look after the buildings. One of these is the National Gallery – home of many famous paintings.

A short bus ride away from Trafalgar Square is Piccadilly Circus, where Eros, the Greek god of love, stands in the heart of London's West End.

Part 6

London's parks

London is proud of her many green and open spaces, where the English countryside comes to the centre of the city. All the major parks were once royal gardens, but today they're here for everyone to enjoy.

St. James's Park, near Buckingham Palace, is London's oldest. It belonged to Henry the Eighth – the king who had six wives. In the park you can feed the swans, geese, ducks and other water birds that live near the lake.

In Kensington Gardens stands the Albert Memorial, which Queen Victoria built in memory of her husband. Facing it is the Albert Hall, where the famous Promenade Concerts are held.

One of the best times to visit London's parks is in the spring. At this time of the year, Regent's Park is a beautiful place of blossom and flowers. It's perhaps London's most elegant park, with its attractive gardens and lakes. And at any time of the year, you can visit the Zoo, which has an aviary where birds can live in a natural environment, and about 6000 animals, many of them born here in Regent's Park. But the Zoo's most popular residents are, of course, the pandas. Pandas come from the mountains of south-west China, but there are very few of these wonderful creatures left in the world. Their main food is bamboo and they're very fond of it!

Part 7

Shopping and theatre

Shopping is as popular with visitors to London as sightseeing. Six days a week, thousands of people come to Oxford Street in the West End to shop for clothes and visit the big stores like Marks and Spencer and Selfridges.

The little streets off Oxford Street have their own attractions too. Here you'll find smaller shops such as jewellers selling gold and silver, small boutiques selling the latest fashions, little antique shops where you can buy collectors' items like silver matchboxes, and even smaller specialist shops. Hamleys of Regent Street is the place for children. It's one of the biggest toy shops in the world. And at Harrods of Knightsbridge it's said that you can get anything from a piano to an elephant.

As evening falls in London, shops close, but restaurants, cinemas and theatres open. London is famous for its theatres, and most of them are in the West End near Piccadilly Circus. You can see anything from a Shakespeare play to a modern musical. In the South Bank complex on the other side of the Thames, there's classical music, art, and cinema as well as theatre.

London is an attractive city with great character. It changes as the centuries pass, but its ceremonies and traditions stay the same. This film has shown you some of the things you can see and do in London. Why not come here and see it all for yourself?